

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

Property Name: Wards Chapel United Methodist Church

Inventory Number: BA-1190

Address: Wards Chapel Road & Liberty Rd. (MD 26)

Historic district: yes ☒ no

City: Randallstown/Holbrook

Zip Code:

County: Baltimore County

USGS Quadrangle(s): Reisterstown

Property Owner:

Tax Account ID Number:

Tax Map Parcel Number(s):

Tax Map Number:

Project: Route 26

Agency: DDOT/FHWA

Agency Prepared By: P. Kurtze, MHT

Preparer's Name:

Date Prepared:

Documentation is presented in: federal file

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☒ Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B ☒ C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*

Name of the District/Property:

Inventory Number:

Eligible: yes

Listed: yes

Site visit by MHT Staff yes ☒ no

Name:

Date:

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Ward's Chapel is significant as an architectural landmark on the old Liberty Road, and for its association with early Methodism in Baltimore County. Designed in the form of a classical temple, the chapel is two bays wide and four bays deep, one story in height over a high basement, and faces north.

[See form for more description]--

The site's association with Methodist worship predates the first structure [1845]; camp meetings were held on Ward's land in 1814, and services were held in John Ward's home as early as 1790.

Historic boundaries are coterminous with the present tax parcel, to include the chapel, parsonage, and old cemetery (approximately three acres).

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B ☒ C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

MHT Comments: Federal DOE

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

W.R. Luce, Keeper NR

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

Wednesday, January 23, 1980

Date

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Ward's Chapel

AND/OR COMMON

Ward's Chapel United Methodist Church

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Ward's Chapel and Liberty Roads

CITY, TOWN

Holbrook

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☒ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trustees of Ward's Chapel U.M.C.

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

W. Chesapeake Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

BA-1190

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

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Designed in the form of a classical temple, the chapel is two bays wide, four bays deep, one story in height over a high basement, and faces north. It is constructed of coursed rubble with granite quoins. On the principal (north) facade, a pedimented portico shelters two entrances consisting of double doors with three tiers of moulded panels set in plain consoles over a stained glass transom. Four concrete columns rest on granite bases to support the portico. The roof is covered in standing-seam metal.

The west facade has four large double-hung stained glass windows on the main story, aligned over similar smaller windows on the basement level. The east facade also has four large double-hung stained glass windows; in the northernmost bay, a paneled door with a stained-glass transom affords entrance to the basement. All windows have granite sills and lintels. A bracketed cornice wraps around three sides of the building. In addition the height of the basement, five bays wide with a central entrance, extends to the east.

The parsonage, built 1922, adjoins the chapel. It is a two-story, hip-roofed Colonial Revival block sheathed in novelty siding on the first floor and shingled above. A half-hip porch with square pillars spans the two-bay north facade.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

BA-1190

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1870

BUILDER/~~ARCHITECT~~ John Butts

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Ward's Chapel is significant as an architectural landmark on the old Liberty Road, and for its association with early Methodism in Baltimore County.

The present building was erected in 1870 to replace a log structure which had served the congregation since 1845. A local contractor named John Butts was engaged to build the chapel, and church members donated stone, lime, and lumber. The total cost was estimated at \$7,000. The site's association with Methodist worship predates the first structure; camp meetings were held on Ward's land in 1814, and services were held in John Ward's home as early as 1790.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Anonymous. Church History: Ward's Chapel, United Methodist Church,  
1870-1970  
(mimeographed pamphlet, n.d.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

October 1979

NAME / TITLE

Peter Kurtze & Peggy Bruns Weissman, Historic Sites Surveyors

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust

269-2438

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Annapolis,

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



Mapped by the Army Map Service  
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography from aerial photographs by stereophotogrammetric methods. Aerial photographs taken 1943. Field check 1944  
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1953

Belgian projection 1927 North American datum

**REISTERSTOWN QUAD**

BA-1190





BA-1190

WARD'S CHAPEL

EAST FACADE

P. KURTZE 10/79





WA BA-1190

WARD'S CHAPEL

NORTH FACADE

PEGGY BRUNS WEISSMAN

10/79